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Budget and Taxation Committee  
Capital Budget Subcommittee  
Health and Human Services Subcommittee

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Vote Yes on Senate Bill 616**

**Bill Title: Baltimore City - Soil Conservation District - Authority to Establish**

**Hearing Date: February 24, 2021** – Baltimore City - Soil Conservation District - Authority to Establish

**Chair, Vice Chair and members of the Committee:**

I write to you today in **support** of Senate Bill 616. Soil conservation is the process taken to protect our soil from degradation. With the lack of soil conservation, not only would our agriculture suffer, but also our water supply would be severely impacted. Biodiversity and water is dependent on soil and land.

The purpose of this Bill is to authorize and establish a Baltimore City Soil Conservation District with continued boundaries corresponding with those of the City. The establishment of a Soil Conservation District would allow for the improvement of water quality and to save taxpayers dollars, among other things.

If enacted, Senate Bill 616 would take effect on October 1, 2021.

In efforts to protect Baltimore's environment and natural resources, we hope that you will move for a **favorable** report of Senate Bill 616.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cory V. McCray'.

Cory V. McCray  
State Senator